

# FILIPINO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLARK COUNTY AND VICINITY



July/August/September/October 1999 Newsletter

## Christmas '99 Dinner-Dance

Consistently a well-attended affair, the annual Christmas celebration sponsored by the Filipino-American Association of Clark County and Vicinity, will be held on **December 10, 1999**, a Friday. Christmas '99 will be held in the Grand Ball Room of **Club Green Meadows**. No host bar starts at **6 pm**, dinner at **7 pm**, followed by dancing until 1 am. Music will be provided by the talented, most energetic and ever popular **Ty and Nonoy**.

This is the association's main social event for the year that draws the Filipino-American families and friends together for an evening of relaxation, good food, good music, dancing, prizes, and just all around fun of that unique Filipino-style. Several years back, the association changed the complexion of this party from the "adult" event (i.e., with a separate children's party held another day), to the full-family affair that it is now. Bring the children along; the very young are free.

Cost is \$25 per person. Children six and under are free. Please contact any Association Council member for tickets or more information.

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### Council Officers & Members for 1999-2000

Chairperson .....	Lettie Tadeo
Vice-Chairperson .....	Joe Manzano
Secretary .....	Gretel Ness
Treasurer .....	Olive Verzosa
Auditor .....	Perla Estigoy
PRO .....	Eric Tadeo
Council Members:	
Ben Alba	Joy Bisquera
Evelyn Estibar	Roger Galang
Frances Verzosa	Edeliza Verzosa

### ASSOCIATION CALENDAR

**November & December 1999** - Christmas Caroling! If you want to schedule the carolers to come to your home, please call Lettie Tadeo (360-256-3864). If you want to join the carolers, please contact Eric Tadeo, 360-574-6275.

**December 10, 1999** (Friday) Filipino-American Association Christmas dinner-dance at Club Green Meadows. 6 pm - 1 am. Contact Lettie Tadeo 360-256-3864, for tickets or more information. See main article.

**April 30 - May 4, 2000** - The University of the Philippines Concert Chorus will be in the Portland/Vancouver area for their 5<sup>th</sup> visit. Concerts and other details of their visit are being arranged. Please contact Eric Tadeo, 360-574-6275, for more information.

This newsletter is published by the **Filipino-American Association of Clark County, Washington and Vicinity**.

Contributions of news, announcements of events, articles, and any other items suited for publication, that are of interest to the association or to the Filipino community in general, are welcome. The editor reserves the right to screen or edit any submitted material, in the interest of space and appropriateness. Please send any material to **Eric Tadeo, 8006 NW 15<sup>th</sup> Ct., Vancouver WA 98665**, telephone number **360-574-6275**, or communicate via email to: [evcntadeo@uswest.net](mailto:evcntadeo@uswest.net).

## *Dance Troupe - the Highlight of 1999*

The dance troupe had been quite busy the past year. With Dr. Frances Verzosa as coordinator and prime mover, and tutelage by Merla Macapinlac, the group of young people drilled through numerous rehearsals and presented several major performances.

Repertoire of the group covers a large variety, spanning both geography and history. Dances from the northern regions (“Igorot”) are portrayed, and contrasted with the Muslim-influenced dances from the south, the latter including the grand courtship/wedding dance, Singkil. Spanish-influenced dances, with their regal ballroom saunter are contrasted with the rural dances, which require more agility and vigor in addition to novelty and grace. The rural dances turn out to be big crowd pleasers, as they include dancing on top of benches (“Sayaw Sa Bangko”), dancing with glasses of lighted candles balanced on heads and hands (“Pandanggo sa Ilaw”) and the ever popular bamboo dance (“Tinikling”), sometimes opened up to audience participation..

In May of 1999, the group performed at the Multi-Cultural celebration at St. Joseph Church in Vancouver. The summer time involved a performance for a fundraising event in Portland by Aguman Capangpangan, and a show at the Annual International Festival in Vancouver sponsored by the Seamen Center. In August, the group performed at the Oregon State Fair in Salem.

It turned out to be a busy year for the following dancers, and in many cases, their parents as well:

Jennifer Alba	Jerome Allas
Bobby Cruz	Marvin Cruz
Carla Ines	Jackie Marcelo
Jane Marcelo	Jennifer Marcelo
Kay Malapitan	Ronnie Marcelo
Gretel Ness	Angie Ocampo
Maureen Paneiro	Jeff San Juan
Joyce San Juan	Charis Tadeo
Aaron Verzosa	Ian Verzosa

**“We are meant to love people and use things.  
Usually we do the opposite.”**

- unknown

## **UP CONCERT CHORUS MILLENIUM TOUR**

The Filipino-American Association of Clark County and Vicinity once again prepares to sponsor the UP Concert Chorus for the 5<sup>th</sup> time this decade. Despite the loss of their distinguished conductor and dean of UP College of Music, Rey T. Paguio, the internationally known performers plans to proceed with their planned 8-month “Millenium” world tour. Professor Janet (“Jai”) Sabas-Aracamas of the UP college of Music, and former UP Concert Chorus singer was quickly appointed interim conductor while the college decides on a permanent replacement.

The tour starts in April 2000 in the northwest region of the United States, and work its way across the country, and heading over to Europe in the latter half. The stop in Vancouver/Portland area would be from April 30 through May 3. Current plans are to arrange for two concerts during this time, potentially in two different venues, and presenting two different repertoires. The association is currently searching for a second group to arrange the second concert. If interested, please call Eric Tadeo on 360-574-6274.

The UP Concert Chorus had formally existed since 1962, doing their first international tour in 1974. Since then, the group, under the baton of Rey Paguio, had been consistent award winners both in the Philippines and in international circles. International choral festivals continue to keep the UP Concert Chorus as one of the few select choral groups that they keep inviting back to their festivals. This band of youthful musicians had served as one of the foremost cultural ambassadors of the Philippines to the world.

The Portland/Vancouver area had been the beneficiary of such visits, and will be again in year 2000. Watch out for more information on this. If you want more information at this early stage, please contact Eric Tadeo or any Association Council member.

### **Some actual names of shops in the Philippines**

Babalik Karinderia (restaurant)  
Bote Nga Sa'Yo (used bottle shop)  
Caintacky Fried Chicken (in Cainta, Rizal)  
Candies Be Love? (candy shop)  
Meating Place (meat shop)  
Wrap and Roll (lumpia outlet, Quad, Makati)  
TapSi TurBi (Tapa, Sinangag, Turon at Bibingka)  
The Way We Wear (boutique)

### Filipino American Community Council organizes

A Council with representation from the various Filipino organizations in Oregon and Southwest Washington is formally organizing as a non-profit corporation. Among its purposes is to assist in maintaining harmonious relations and cooperation among the various Filipino organizations and serve as clearing house for information amongst these organizations. This should help alleviate conflicts in scheduled events. The council will also pursue projects that are of the magnitude that requires cooperation of multiple organizations. Currently, the Council is pursuing the setting up of a scholarship fund for University of Oregon students who are interested in Philippine studies, or the Filipino culture in general.

Current organizing officers are Frank Irlandez of Friendship Club as Chair, Simeon Mamaril of FAHNs as Treasurer, and Ronnie Lim of Asian Reporter as Secretary. The committee working on the scholarship fund is headed by Medy Saqueton.

The Council will hold its first conference and organization meeting in Salem on December 5. The Filipino American Association of Clark County and Vicinity has voted to be members of this Council, and shall be represented accordingly.

**Cebuano Speaking Association Party:** The Cebuano-Speaking group will hold its Christmas party dinner/dance on December 11, 1999 (Saturday) at 6:00 pm, at the Luepke Center. Live band - The Reflections. Cost is \$13.00 per person. Contact Marci Hope for tickets or more information. Tel 360-574-1759.

(Community events and announcements may be passed on to Eric Tadeo for publication in this section. Editorial rights are reserved for appropriateness, size and contents. Please use email, [evctadeo@uswest.net](mailto:evctadeo@uswest.net))

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## Transitions ...

*Please send information on major events and milestones to Eric Tadeo, preferably, via email, [evctadeo@uswest.net](mailto:evctadeo@uswest.net).*

**Rey T. Paguio**, for over 30 years director of the University of the Philippines Concert chorus, passed away on October 14, 1999. He was 63 years old. He is survived by his brothers and by thousands of current and former UP Concert Chorus members, whose lives were deeply touched by his able mentorship and loving leadership. Rey had become a dear friend to many in the Portland/Vancouver area, with four visits of the UP Concert Chorus in this decade.

**Enrico Tadeo**, member of Filipino-American Association of Clark County and Vicinity, was admitted to the Washington Bar in November, 1999.

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## Here we come a-caroling

Every year, the Filipino-American Association of Clark County and Vicinity engages in the spread of Christmas joy and spirit by going to people's homes and singing songs that celebrate the essence of Christmas. This tradition of going "caroling" is well practiced in the Philippines as well as in other countries. In England for many centuries, it's been called "wassailing", which involves singing songs to people and wishing them well during the season of festivities. In the Philippines, singing groups go to people's homes (sometimes with prior arrangement, sometimes without) to sing carols, and are treated by the hosts snacks as well as remuneration in appreciation.

The tradition lives here in Vancouver-Portland area as the association prepares several songs, mostly Filipino numbers, to sing to pre-arranged host homes. This had been done for many years now, and invariably, the money made from this effort had always been used for charitable and educational causes. The association have in the past, adopted families in the "people In Need" program of the Columbian, adopted children in the "angel Tree" (a program that helps children of incarcerated parents celebrate Christmas), helped known needy persons in the community, and also helped with expenses for the cultural projects of the association.

The group continues this tradition and continues to maintain a presence in the community-at-large as a positive contributor to the people's well-being. Support for this project would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to host the Fil-Am carolers (sing at a party you have at your home, etc), please contact Lettie Tadeo (360-256-3864) or Joe Manzano (360-254-6259).

This has always been a fun project. We thank all those who have been very generous in supporting this project in the past.

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## ***Rey T. Paguio's Music Legacy***

Though Prof. Rey T. Paguio (Nov. 29, 1935 – Oct. 14, 1999) gained his laurels in music, and music has virtually defined his life, Rey was actually coerced into music in his youth when his grandfather "ordained" him to be a musician of the family by forcing him to take piano lessons.

Immediately, Rey was recognized as a child prodigy. He had composed his first piece by the age of seven. While he was preparing for his first year at UP High, his grandfather, again, steered the course of his career by making him join a piano competition which, not surprisingly, he won, at a mere 11 years of age. The prize was enrollment as a full-time student at the UP Conservatory of Music.

Rey juggled this load with his high school studies. Thus, he was both a high school and a college student at the same time. His then-frail body could not take this punishing schedule indefinitely. By his third year, he stopped his music studies and concentrated on his secondary education. Upon graduation, he wanted to take journalism. His grandfather intervened once more. Lightning struck for the second time, and he earned a full scholarship at UP by winning the Ernestina Crisologo Jose piano competition.

While a music student, he was also immersed in choral singing in a Protestant church. The choirs were conducted by luminaries like Antonio Molina, now a National Artist, and Eliseo M. Pajaro. After obtaining a teacher's diploma and a bachelor of music degree in piano, Maestro Pajaro got him a scholarship to take graduate studies in the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas to further hone his skills in conducting and piano. On his way to a masteral degree in sacred music (major in choral conducting) and in music education, Rey garnered all the honors the university could muster: Most Outstanding Graduate Student of the Year, the Nita and Jake Aiken Music Award, the Delta Lambda Sigma Music Award, inclusion in the Dean's Honor List and membership in the Phi Kappa Alpha Music Honor Society.

### ***REY AND THE UP CONCERT CHORUS***

Soon after his return to the Philippines, he joined the UP Conservatory (converted to College in 1968) as a faculty member, and became fully involved with the UP Concert Chorus (UPCC). The UPCC was created in 1962 and was handled by four other conductors before Rey took over in 1969.

And thus was born Sir. And thus evolved the UPCC into what it is now. Under Sir's leadership, the UPCC grew from an excellent university choral to an entity of national stature to a choir of international renown. The UPCC has undertaken 11 international tours each lasting between a month to as long as seven months. The UPCC has participated in, and won international competitions, and is the only group in the world to be invited back to Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Scotland for a record of seven times. The group's incursions abroad exposed foreigners to Philippine music, zarzuelas and made the UP youth worthy ambassadors of goodwill.

### ***OTHER MUSICAL ACTIVITIES***

The UPCC, though integral to Sir's life, was not his only preoccupation. He has been dubbed a "Renaissance man" for the breadth of his artistic talents, and a genius for the outstanding results of all his undertakings. Many other people have benefited from his forays into other musical activities. Sir has conducted other choirs, has taught many others how to conduct choirs, has been in the board of Music Council of the Philippines, the Philippine Conductors League of the Philippines, and several more organizations.

Another of his talents is composing. He has composed three major works: *Sumpang Mahal*, a zarzuela; *Ms. Philippines*, a music spoof; and *May Day Eve*, a full blown opera based on National Artist Nick Joaquin's short story. He was television host in the initial year of GMA 7's *A Little Night of Music*, which was Sir's brainchild and reaction to the over proliferation of pop music. Sir has dabbled in stage and television acting, and has been a guest conductor of the prominent Philippine orchestras: The Manila Symphony Orchestra, Philippine Youth Orchestra and the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra.

Sir is also bent on promoting music appreciation throughout the Philippines. Upon his initiative, Sir worked out a two-year concert series at the Asian Institute of Tourism Auditorium, which featured classical music and artist every month. Sir conceptualized and pushed for the Baguio City Dap-ayan Concert Season of cultural shows, and a weekly Wednesday Noon Series of Classical Artists (national and international), which eventually became the Thursday Evening Series. With Dr. Jonathan Malicsi, Prof. Elmo Makil and Augusto Espino, he formed Bel Canto Philippines whose mission is to bring classical music to different regions of the country. Prof. Makil and Sir also teamed up for choral-vocal workshops all over the Philippines to share their expertise with "*musically-starved and eager-to-learn choirs.*"

### ***THE UP COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DEAN***

Through all these years, the UP College of Music has been Sir's home. Sir has molded legions of music students in his years of teaching conducting, music education, and piano. He served as College Secretary to all Deans of the UP College of music: Ramon Tapales, Eliseo Pajaro, Ruby K. Mangahas, Ramon P. Santos and Juan P. Ramos. He was Chairman of the Department of Music Education, and the Department of Conducting and Choral Ensembles, sometimes concurrent with his being College Secretary. He was advisor for the Music College Student Council many times. He was UP Professional awardee as the "*Most Outstanding Music Alumnus of the Year*" in 1982. He received the 1991 Llamas Professional Chair in Music. His years of selfless dedication were capped by his elevation to Dean of the UP College of Music in 1997.

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"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you did *not* do than by the things you did. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the Trade winds in your sail. Explore. Dream Discover."  
- Mark Twain

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# THE PHILIPPINES:

## Geographically speaking ...

(This is the first in a series of short informational articles about the Philippines. This issue presents the physical geography of the country. - Eric Tadeo)

The Philippines consists of a group of islands in the Southeast Asian region, along the equatorial area. South China Sea borders the western coasts, while the eastern beaches open into the vast Pacific Ocean. These islands are to the south of Taiwan, while Borneo and Celebes Sea borders the southern regions.

There are 7,107 islands, a majority of which are very small islets that are yet unnamed and uninhabited. Less than 4,000 of the islands are named and less than 400 have areas of over 1 square mile. Only ten of these islands are quite large (over 1,500 square miles). These ten, naturally serve as the major areas of population and commerce. The northerly Luzon is the largest, followed closely in size by Mindanao in the south. The next eight are much smaller: Samar, Negros, Palawan, Panay, Mindoro, Leyte, Cebu and Bohol - all these are in the central region, between Luzon and Mindanao, known as the Visayan islands.

The land area of the entire group of islands totals around 116,000 square miles; just slightly larger than Arizona.

Luzon has two great plains: the central Luzon plains, which is a strip around 150 by 50 miles, and is mostly only 100 feet above sea level, is where the main metropolitan Manila area sits by Manila Bay; and the Cagayan Valley in the northeastern corner of the island. Three major mountain systems line Luzon. The Sierra Madre mountain ranges bordering the eastern coast, the Cordillera mountains are in the central/northerly area, and the Zambales mountains line the southwesterly area. The latter mountain range includes Mt. Pinatubo of the recent disastrous volcanic activity. The southern portion of Luzon narrows into a peninsula (Bicol region) which has irregular masses of hills and mountains, including the Mount Mayon, an active volcano that is known for its beauty and near perfect conical shape.

Mindanao has several significant mountain ranges, the Diuata Mountains along the eastern coast being the most prominent. West of this is the fertile Agusan Valley and further west and southwest is the Cotabato Valley. On the southern coast is another mountain range that includes Mount Apo, the country's highest peak.

The Visayan islands are spotted with rugged elevations surrounded with coastal plains. Palawan is a long but very narrow island, only round 25 miles across.

These islands are spotted with volcanoes and many volcanic lakes as well, though activity had been quite sparse. There are around 50 volcanoes, ten of which are known to be active.

The major river systems are naturally on the two biggest islands. Luzon has Cagayan River in the North, Agno, Pampanga and Pasig in the central area, and Bicol in the south. Pasig flows through the metropolitan area, and is commercially significant. Mindanao has Mindanao and Agusan rivers.

Being islands in the equatorial region, the Philippines is characterized by high temperatures and humidities. Generally, there are only two distinguishable seasons, the wet and the dry, with times varying depending on the area. From June to December, typhoons would frequently strike the northerly areas of the archipelago, in some years as many as thirty or more. Mindanao in the south is seldom hit by such typhoons.

Such islands of rugged terrains and sometime harsh tropical climates becomes home to a wide variety of exotic flora and fauna, many of which are unique to the Philippines.

More on the Philippines, next issue ...

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## Ads and Opportunities

(Ads may be put in this section without charge, subject to editorial approval for size and contents. Please email to Eric Tadeo, eventadeo@uswest.net)

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**Mabuhay Filipino Restaurant** - Enjoy Filipino Food and Sing-along. 5912 E. Fourth Plain Blvd, Vancouver WA. Tel. 360-737-2487. Rosana, Christina and Leonora Starks.

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**Wanted baker** - Need baker of Filipino goods for Beaverton Asian market. Must have 2 years experience as Filipino pastry cook/baker. Please send resume to Bataan Victory and Bakery, 11876 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale, Beaverton OR 97005, Attn. Cathy.

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**Archie's barber shop** - Come to Archie's Barber shop at 3405 E. Fourth Plain, Vancouver, WA. Tel. 360-695-2849.

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**Christmas Music from Around the World:** The Vancouver USA *Singers* presents Christmas Music on December 12, 1999 (Sunday) at 3:00 pm, at the First Presbyterian Church on 4300 Main Street, Vancouver. Tickets are Beacock's Music (360-694-7134) or Halls 78<sup>th</sup> Street Pharmacy (360-694-7541)

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The Filipino-American Association  
of Clark County and Vicinity  
invites you to ...

# Christmas '99

## Dinner Dance

*Music by Ty and Nancy*

**December 10, 1999** - Friday evening

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm - no-host bar

7:00 pm - 1:00 am - dinner & dance

**Club Green Meadows - Grand Ballroom**

NE 78<sup>th</sup> St. corner NE 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave.

Vancouver, WA

Telephone: 360-256-1501

**Donation \$25.00 per person**

for information call: Lettie Tadeo 360-256-3864